

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

1. Please replace paragraphs [0006], [0019] and [0021] with new replacement paragraphs [0006], [0019] and [0021] as follows:

[0006] Immunoassay detection using element tagged immunoglobulins and antigens has also been possible using colloidal gold or extremely small beads of gold (several nanometers in diameter), for example NANOGOLD (registered trademark of Nanoprobes Inc)[™] particles. Van Banchet and Heppelmann (1995), Wagenknecht *et al.* (1994), and Wenzel and Baumeister (1995) used colloidal gold to visualize protein structure in the cell and to detect receptor-ligand binding by electron microscopy. However, these assays suffer from lack of quantitation capabilities.

[0019] Reagents (not currently sold in a kit format) containing element tagged immunoglobulins are commercially available (NanoProbes). In these reagents, the immunoglobulins are directly bound with colloidal gold or extremely small beads of gold (eg. NANOGOLD[™] particles, which are 1.4nm in diameter) and are currently used for *in situ* hybridization, electron microscopy and immunohistochemistry. In this manner, Segond von Banchet and Heppelmann (1995) and Wagenknecht *et al.* (1994) used colloidal gold to visualize protein structure in the cell and to detect receptor-ligand binding by electron microscopy. In another element-tagged method, Leuversing *et al.* (1982) have suggested using large elemental particles (with a size varying from 10-100nm) coated either directly on immunological components or on inert polymer linkers and using spectrophotometric detection to analyze reactions. However, both of these assays suffer from lack of quantitation capabilities.

[0021] Several companies have designed kits for cytokine quantitation that contain radiological, fluorescent, or enzymatic reagents. For example, PerkinElmer (Wallac DELFIA[™] (registered trademark of Wallace Oy) Assay kits), BD Biosciences (OptEIA ELISA[™] (registered trademark of Becton, Dickinson and Company) kits), Pierce

Biotechnology Inc. (Searchlight Human Cytokine[™] (registered trademark of Pierce Biotechnology Inc) array), R&D systems (Quantikine ELISA[™] (registered trademark of Research & Diagnostic System, Inc) kits) and various partners of Luiminex (e.g. R&D systems, Fluorokine kits) produce kits for cytokine quantitation. However, these kits are limited to either detecting only one cytokine or several (4-9) over a limited dynamic range with problems of fluorescence or chemiluminescence overlapping inhibiting sensitivities.

2. Further, please replace the current "Detailed Description of the Invention" at pages 23 to 77 with the replacement section on pages 23 to 77 attached at the end of this Response.